

**Maryland Historical Trust**  
**Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form**  
**Intercounty Connector Project**

DOE \_\_\_yes \_\_\_no

**1. Name:** (indicate preferred name)

historic Andrew Buskirk Property (preferred)

and/or common Rebecca A. Davis Property

**2. Location:**

street & number 14507 Fairacres Road \_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Spencerville x vicinity of congressional district

state Maryland county Montgomery

**3. Classification:**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
___ district	___ public	<u>x</u> occupied	___ agriculture ___ museum
<u>x</u> building(s)	<u>x</u> private	___ unoccupied	___ commercial ___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ education <u>x</u> private
___ site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	___ entertainment residence
___ object	___ in process	<u>x</u> yes: restricted	___ government ___ religious
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial ___ scientific
	___ not applicable	___ no	___ military ___ other:
			___ transportation

**4. Owner of Property:** (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Rebecca A. Davis

street & number 14507 Fairacres Road

telephone no.:

city, town Silver Spring

state and zip code MD 20905

**5. Location of Legal Description**

Land Records Office of Montgomery County

liber 7387

street & number 50 Maryland Avenue

folio 562

city, town Rockville

state Maryland

**6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys**

title

date \_\_\_ federal \_\_\_ state \_\_\_ county \_\_\_ local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

*James*

## 7. Description

Survey No. M:28-41 (PACS D3.24)

### Condition

☒ excellent  
☐ good  
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☐ unexposed

### Check one

☐ unaltered  
☒ altered

### Check one

☐ original site  
☐ moved

date of move \_\_\_\_\_

Resource Count: 2

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Andrew Buskirk Property is located on the south side of Fairacres Road, northeast of Briggs Chaney Road, in the Spencerville vicinity, Montgomery County. The property consists of a 2-story, 4-bay gable-front-and-wing residence and a small metal shed. According to historic research, the residence was constructed in at least two phases beginning in 1865 (Montgomery County Tax Assessment Office). A Mutual Fire Insurance Company policy dated March 1882 describes the main residence on the property as a 2-story wood-frame building containing four rooms and one brick chimney with no fireplaces. A June 1894 Mutual Fire Insurance Policy lists the property as a tenant farm known as the "Lower Place" with a residence occupied by tenants which is identical to the building described in the 1882 policy.

The building descriptions in the Mutual Fire Insurance Company policies appear to match the front-gable section of the gable-front-and-wing residence. This section is 2-stories, with four rooms, a central brick chimney without fireplaces, a separate entrance and staircase.

The building is T-shaped in plan with a wide front porch and a hipped roof wrap-around rear porch. The house has a 1-story three-sided canted bay on the front-gable section, while the attic level has two gable dormers. All three gable ends and the gable dormers have return cornices. The refined elements of the both sections demonstrate an influence from traditional building techniques. At the time of the construction of the later side-gable section circa 1900, it appears that the circa 1865 section was renovated, as some architectural detailing is consistent throughout the structure.

The structure has an asphalt shingle-covered roof and three brick corbelled chimneys. The west gable end of the side-gable section and the rear gable end of the front-gable section have exterior chimneys, while an interior chimney is located at the intersection of the front and side-gables. The house is of wood-frame construction with wood siding, it has a stone foundation and 2/2 double-hung windows. The house has a hipped roof porch on the front elevation. The porch has a wood floor and a metal roof supported by four, chamfered wood posts.

The front, or west facade has an entrance located in the third bay with a glass and panel wood door with a large single-light. The front facade has a 2/2 double-hung window in both the first and second bays of the side-gable section on the first story. Also on the first story is the fourth bay, a three-sided canted bay located in the front-gable, with 1/1 double-hung windows. The second story has four 2/2 double-hung windows aligned over the first story openings. The attic level has a gable dormer with a 2/2 double-hung window on the side-gable, while the front-gable has a single 2/2 double-hung window on the attic level.

The north elevation has a symmetrical fenestration pattern, with two 2-light awning windows on the basement level and two 2/2 double-hung windows on the first story. The second story has two 2/2 double-hung windows with two smaller 2/2 double-hung windows on the attic level. All the window openings are arranged around the central exterior chimney.

The rear, or east elevation has a 1-story, hipped roof wrap-around porch on the front-gable section. The porch wraps-around onto the first story of the south elevation. The fenestration pattern is irregular with two doors and two windows on the first story. One entrance and a small

## CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: Andrew Buskirk Property

SURVEY NO.: M:28-41 (PACS D3.24)

ADDRESS: 14507 Fairacres Road, Spencerville, Montgomery County, Maryland

### 7. Description (Continued)

single-light fixed window are located within the screened-in, wrap-around porch, while the other two openings are located on the first floor of the side-gable section. The second story has two windows. The first is a 2/2 double-hung window located in the gable end, while the second is a 9-light fixed window on the side-gable section. Also on the side-gable, is a another 9-light fixed window with stained glass, situated between the first and second story at the location of an interior staircase landing. The gable end has a centrally located exterior chimney and two 4-light casement windows on the attic level.

The south elevation has three windows and a door on the first story. The windows are 2/2 double-hung and the door is paneled with a large single-light. The entrance and one window are located within the porch which wraps-around from the rear elevation. One of the windows on the first floor is located in an enclosed portion of the wrap-around porch. The second story has two 2/2 double-hung windows and the attic level has a gable dormer with a 2/2 double-hung window.

There is one outbuilding associated with this property. The outbuilding is a small 1-story metal shed, with a metal gable roof. Constructed circa 1980, the structure is located north of the house.

a property is located on the south side of Fairacres Road and east of Briggs Chaney Road. There are large trees adjacent to the house and large front, side and rear yards. The house is located adjacent to residential properties which date to the second half of the twentieth century.

## 8. Significance

**Survey No. M:28-41 (PACS D3.24)**

**Period** **Areas of Significance—Check and justify below**

__prehistoric	__archaeology-prehistoric	__Community planning	__landscape architecture	__religion
__1400-1499	__archeology-historic	__conservation	__law	__science
__1500-1599	__agriculture	__economics	__literature	__sculpture
__1600-1699	__architecture	__education	__military	__social/
__1700-1799	__art	__engineering	__music	humanitarian
X 1800-1899	__commerce	__exploration/settlement	__philosophy	__theater
X 1900-	__communication	__industry	__politics/government	__transportation
		__invention		other (specify)

<b>Specific dates</b>	circa 1865, enlarged circa 1900	<b>Builder/Architect</b>	Unknown
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check:      Applicable Criteria:    \_\_\_A   \_\_\_B   \_\_\_C   \_\_\_D  
                 and/or  
Applicable Exceptions:    \_\_\_A   \_\_\_B   \_\_\_C   \_\_\_D   \_\_\_E   \_\_\_F   \_\_\_G  
  
                 Level of Significance:    \_\_\_national            \_\_\_state            \_\_\_local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Andrew Buskirk began accumulating land in the Spencerville area in 1855. In 1865, Buskirk purchased 59 hectares (146 acres) of land from James Spencer of Bucks County, Pennsylvania. According to Montgomery County tax records, the house was constructed circa 1865. Andrew Buskirk is referred to in the 1865 deed as a gentleman from Moreland, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania (Montgomery County Land Records Office, Deed Book EPB/Folio 280, 1865). Manlow Buskirk, an heir of Andrew Buskirk, sold 64.3 hectares (159 acres) and the house to Henry Stabler in 1882. A Mutual Insurance Policy of Henry Stabler in March 1882 describes a house and barn complex, 1.6 kilometers (1 mile) south of Spencerville. The house had 2-stories, 4 rooms, a brick chimney, no fireplaces and a shingle roof. The house was valued at \$500.00 (Mutual Fire Insurance Policy #11532). The house and 64.3 hectares (159 acres) was sold to Asa Stabler in May of 1882 for \$3000.00.

Asa Stabler, the son of Caleb Stabler of the estate known as "Drayton", was a farmer, businessman and resident of Spencerville, Maryland. Although he considered himself a farmer his entire life, he was active in business and social endeavors. He was the director of two local banks, including the Sandy Springs Savings Institution, a director of the Mutual Fire Insurance Company and an officer of the Committee of Reception of the Montgomery County Agricultural Society (Scharf 1968, 673). He purchased the property known as "Sunnyside" from his brother Charles a year before his wedding to Albina Osburn in 1867.

Sunnyside was located on the north side of Spencerville Road (MD 198) in Spencerville, between his father's home "Drayton" and his sister's home "Alloway". Asa's principal residence was Sunnyside, but he retained ownership of the Andrew Buskirk Property as a tenant farm. Sunnyside was referred to in fire insurance policies as either "Sunnyside" or the "Upper Place", while the Andrew Buskirk Property is called the "Lower Place" (Mutual Fire Insurance Policy #27085).

Mutual Insurance Policy # 27085, issued June 1894, provides coverage for the Lower Place (Andrew Buskirk Property) for a main building, two tenant houses and a complex of outbuildings. The main building remained a 2-story, 4 room wood-frame structure with one chimney and no fireplaces. The tenant houses were 2-story structures, one located "nearest Spencerville," and one located, "nearest the lands of Griffith Search." The outbuildings and livestock included a barn, stable, hay house, wagon house, two corn houses, five horses, five colts and six cattle. This policy is the last record of the Andrew Buskirk Property under Asa Stabler's ownership.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: Andrew Buskirk Property

SURVEY NO.: M:28-41 (PACS D3.24)

ADDRESS: 14507 Fairacres Road, Spencerville, Montgomery County, Maryland

### 8. Significance (Continued)

Asa Stabler's son, Newton was born in 1868 at Sunnyside. In 1898, Newton Stabler married Mary Hallowell at her family's property "Rockland", located west of Sandy Spring. For the first year of marriage, the couple rented one of the farms of William Lea located on the south side of Spencerville Road (MD 198) less than 1.6 kilometers (1 mile) from his father's house, Sunnyside. According to Mutual Fire Insurance policy # 35892, Newton Stabler insured his personal property, horses, cattle, household furniture, pictures and colts for \$1800.00 while residing on the William Lea farm. Shortly thereafter, Newton Stabler and his wife Mary moved to the tenant farm known as the Lower Place (Andrew Buskirk Property).

Circa 1900, Newton and Mary Stabler moved to the Lower Place (Andrew Buskirk Property) and made additions and improvements to the main residential building. The family farmed the land and resided at the house for many years. After the death of Asa Stabler's wife, Albina, Asa sold the property to Newton in 1925, shortly before leaving Sunnyside to live at Alloway with his daughter and son-in-law, Warwick and Mary Miller (Deed Book 372/Folio 171, 1925). With Sunnyside vacant, Newton moved his family to his father's farm and remained there until Newton's death in 1936. Newton Stabler sold the Lower Place (Andrew Buskirk Property) to Nathan Miller (possibly Asa Stabler's nephew) in 1926 (Deed Book 412/Folio 141, 1926).

The Gudelsky family, trading as the Contee Sand and Gravel Company, purchased the land in 1946 and submitted a plan of subdivision called "Fairland Acres" that same year. The residence was retained on lots 8 and 9 of the subdivision on a reduced landholding of .48 hectares (1.2 acres). The house was sold once before purchased by the current owners, the Davis family, in 1960 (Deed Book 7387/Folio 562, 1960).

The Andrew Buskirk Property is located in the vicinity of Spencerville. The town of Spencerville is located on land originally patented in 1703 as "Bear Bacon" and in 1715 as "Snowden's Manor Enlarged" in what was then Prince George's County. This patent was a resurvey of earlier Snowden patents, and it increased Snowden family holdings to 3749 hectares (9265 acres) of land in what is now four Maryland counties. In 1850, William Spencer of Pennsylvania settled in the area when he led his relatives and others from Southampton Township, Pennsylvania into Montgomery County around 1848. A small community was formed by Spencer on the Laurel Road (present Spencerville Road) called Drayton which connected the Quaker settlements of Sandy Spring and Ashton with the railroad line at Laurel. The settlement was renamed Spencerville in 1859 in honor of William Spencer.

In the late nineteenth century, Spencerville reached its peak of importance as an economic and social center. The town contained over 100 residents, as well as two stores, a post office, a blacksmith shop, a physician's office and a grange.

The town began to decline in the first few decades of the twentieth century as the local economy shifted from agricultural to a reliance on the industries and job opportunities created by the federal government. The town was small and rural until after the Second World War, when rapid economic growth in southern Montgomery County and improved roads made Spencerville accessible

## CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: Andrew Buskirk Property

SURVEY NO.: M:28-41 (PACS D3.24)

ADDRESS: 14507 Fairacres Road, Spencerville, Montgomery County, Maryland

### 8. Significance (Continued)

to new residents. Empty lots in the town were filled with modern residences, while the area still retains a rural character. Many of the old working farms remain, however, the area continues to grow into one of the major suburban centers outside of Washington, D.C.

The house on the Andrew Buskirk Property was a 3-bay I-house which was expanded with a front-gable wing in the late nineteenth century. The standard I-house is one room deep and two stories tall with three to five openings on each story. From the front, an I-house is often indistinguishable from a Georgian house. The gable view, however, reveals the greater depth of the Georgian house. Chimneys are located on the interior of the gable ends, however, external chimneys are characteristic in the Chesapeake region. Usually, an I-house has a one-story porch running the length or nearly the length of the long side. On the interior, a central hall separates the two rooms on the first floor; the second floor contains either two or four sleeping chambers. Due to the narrowness of the main core, many I-houses have kitchen wings to the rear. Initially, stone masonry construction was used but by the mid-nineteenth century, as pre-cut lumber became increasingly available, frame construction became the norm. During the Victorian period, pre-cut detailing or a two-tiered porch was commonly grafted onto the traditional I-house. The I-house plan was popular into the early twentieth century, with examples appearing in catalogs of mass-produced suburban houses (Gowans 1992, 55-6).

# CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: Andrew Buskirk Property

SURVEY NO.: M:28-41 (PACS D3.24)

ADDRESS: 14507 Fairacres Road, Spencerville, Montgomery County, Maryland

## 8. Significance (Continued)

### NATIONAL REGISTER EVALUATION:

The Andrew Buskirk Property is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C, as a good example of a farmhouse which blends vernacular building forms with late nineteenth century stylistic features. The house represents the property's evolution from tenant farm to residence and exhibits stylistic influences from the second half of the nineteenth century, including vernacular building forms, Victorian-era features and Colonial Revival formalism and symmetry. Some of the character-defining features are a symmetrical fenestration pattern, cornice returns, gable dormers with returns, chamfered porch posts, and a 1-story bay window on the front-gable. The building possess excellent integrity and retains such elements as the original wood siding and windows. In addition, the setting contributes to the significance of the property, despite the subdivision of its historic acreage, through the retention of large front, side and rear yards.

The property is not eligible under Criterion A, as research conducted indicates no association with any historic events or trends significant in the development of national, state or local history. Historic research indicates that the property has no association with persons who have made specific contributions to history, and therefore, it does not meet Criterion B. Although Asa Stabler was a productive and influential citizen of the Spencerville area, the property is not eligible for its association with him, as it was his secondary property and not his primary residence. Also, Asa Stabler is not responsible for the construction or alteration of the building. Finally, the property has no known potential to yield important information, and therefore, does not meet Criterion D.

### MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

Eligibility recommended ☒

Eligibility Not Recommended ☐

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Reviewer, OPS: *[Signature]*

Date: *5/11/98*

Reviewer, NR Program: *[Signature]*

Date: *5/11/98*

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References Survey No.M:28-41(PACS D3.24)

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See Continuation Sheet

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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of nominated property .48 hectares (1.2 acres)  
Quadrangle name Beltsville Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

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List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

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name/title Caroline Hall/Tim Tamburrino

Organization P.A.C. Spero & Company

date December 1996/revised February 1998

street & number 40 W. Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 412

telephone (410) 296-1635

city or town Baltimore

state Maryland

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The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposed only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
DHCP/DHCD  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023  
(410) 514-7600



CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: Andrew Buskirk Property

SURVEY NO.: M:28-41 (PACS D3.24)

ADDRESS: 14507 Fairacres Road, Spencerville, Montgomery County, Maryland

## 9. Major Bibliographical References (Continued)

Annals of Sandy Spring, or Twenty Years History of A Rural Community in Maryland. Vol 4. Westminster, Maryland: The Times Printing Company, 1929.

Boyd, T.H.S. The History of Montgomery County, Maryland, From its Earliest Settlement in 1650 to 1879. Baltimore: Regional Publishing Company, 1968.

Farquhar, Roger Brooke. Old Homes and History of Montgomery County, Maryland. Washington: Judd and Detweiler, Inc., 1962.

Gowans, Alan. Styles and Types of North American Architecture. New York: Harper Collins, 1992.

Hiebert, Ray Eldon, and Richard K. MacMaster. A Grateful Remembrance: the Story of Montgomery County, Maryland. Rockville, Maryland: Montgomery County Government and the Montgomery County Historical Society, 1976.

Hopkins, G.M. Atlas of 15 Miles Around Washington including County of Montgomery, Maryland. Philadelphia: G.M. Hopkins, 1879; reprint, Rockville, Maryland: Montgomery County Historical Society, 1975.

Land Records Office of Montgomery County, Maryland.

Martenet, Simon J. Martenet and Bond's Map of Montgomery County, Maryland. Baltimore, Maryland: Simon J. Martenet, 1865; reprint, Rockville, Maryland: Montgomery County Historical Society.

Malloy, Mary Gordon and Marian W. Jacobs. Genealogical Abstracts, Montgomery County Sentinel, 1855-1899. Rockville, Maryland: The Montgomery County Historical Society, 1986.

Montgomery County Tax Assessment Office.

Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Montgomery County Policies, #11532, 22082, 27085, 27085, 35892.

Scharf, J. Thomas. History of Western Maryland. Vol 1. Baltimore, Maryland: Regional Publishing Company, 1968.

# CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

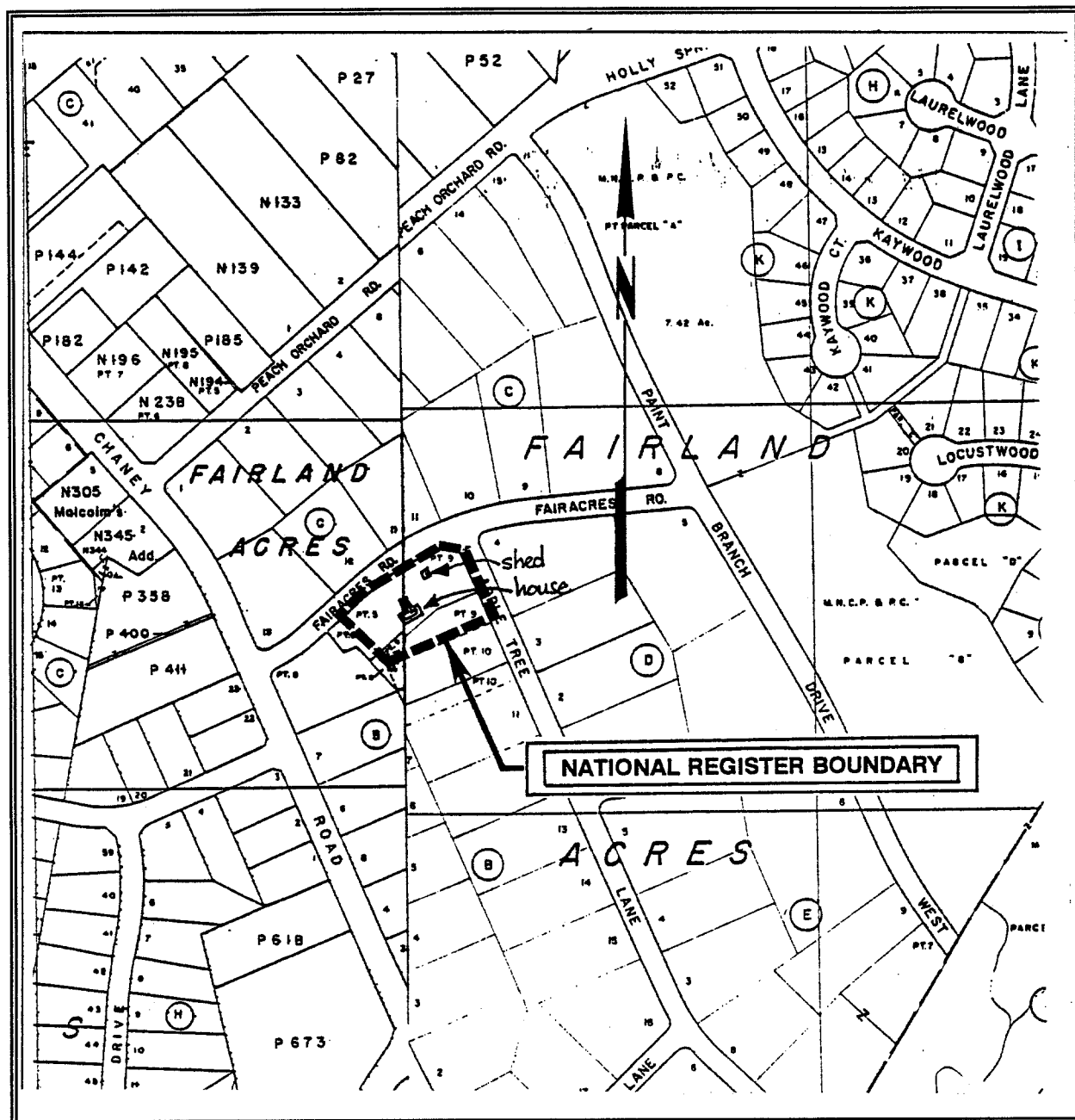
RESOURCE NAME: Andrew Buskirk Property

SURVEY NO.: M:28-41 (PACS D3.24)

ADDRESS: 14507 Fairacres Road, Spencerville, Montgomery County, Maryland

## 10. Geographical Data

Resource Sketch Map:



CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: Andrew Buskirk Property

SURVEY NO.: M:28-41 (PACS D3.24)

ADDRESS: 14507 Fairacres Road, Spencerville, Montgomery County, Maryland

## 10. Geographical Data (Continued)

### Verbal Boundary Description and Justification:

The National Register boundaries of the Andrew Buskirk Property follow the current property lines of 14507 Fairacres Road (Tax Map KR 343, Subdivision 30, Block B, Lot P8, Group 82). This .48 hectare (1.2 acre) parcel is bounded on the north by Fairacres Road, on the east by Apple Tree Lane, and on the west and south by adjacent tax parcels. The boundary includes all extant structures associated with the property, including the main house and a metal shed. According to deed research, the property was originally part of a 64.3 hectare (159 acre) parcel which was purchased and subdivided by the Gudelsky family, acting as the Contee Sand and Gravel Company, in 1946. The current parcel now contains .48 hectares (1.2 acres) and is bounded by mid- to late twentieth century residential development.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: Andrew Buskirk Property

SURVEY NO.: M:28-41 (PACS D3.24)

ADDRESS: 14507 Fairacres Road, Spencerville vicinity, Montgomery County, Maryland

Maryland Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan Data Sheet

Historic Context:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization:

Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period Theme (s):

Agricultural-Industrial Transition A.D. 1815-1870

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s):

Architecture

RESOURCE TYPE:

Category (see Section 3 of survey form):

Buildings

Historic Environment (urban, suburban, village, or rural):

Suburban

Historic Function(s) and Use(s):

Agriculture/Tenant house

Known Design Source (write none if unknown):

None

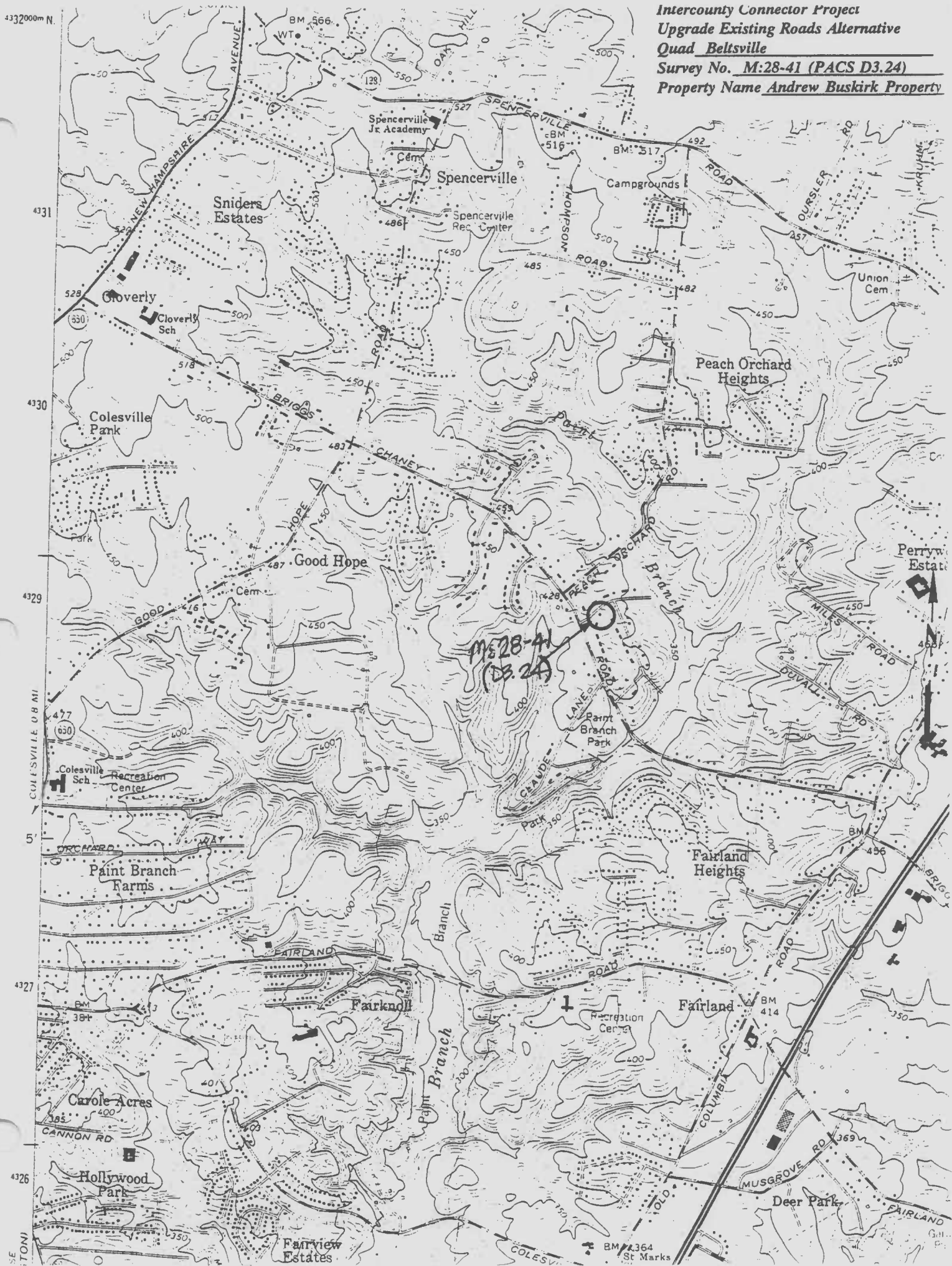
Preparer:

P.A.C. Spero & Company

December 1996/revised February 1998

4332000m N

Intercounty Connector Project  
Upgrade Existing Roads Alternative  
Quad Beltsville  
Survey No. M:28-41 (PACS D3.24)  
Property Name Andrew Buskirk Property



**Maryland Historical Trust**  
**Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form**  
**Intercounty Connector Project**

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

**1. Name:** (indicate preferred name)

historic Andrew Buskirk Property

and/or common Rebecca A. Davis Property

**2. Location:**

street & number 14507 Fairacres Road ☐ not for publicationcity, town Spencerville ☒ vicinity of congressional district

state Maryland county Montgomery

**3. Classification:**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> education <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment residence
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government religious
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military other:
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation

**4. Owner of Property:** (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Rebecca A. Davis

street &amp; number 14507 Fairacres Road

telephone no.:

city, town Silver Spring

state and zip code MD 20905

**5. Location of Legal Description**

Land Records Office of Montgomery County

liber 7387

street &amp; number 50 Maryland Avenue

folio 562

city, town Rockville

state Maryland

**6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys**

title

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

## 7. Description

Survey No. M:28-41 (PACS D3.24)

### Condition

☒ excellent  
☐ good  
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☐ unexposed

### Check one

☐ unaltered  
☒ altered

### Check one

☐ original site  
☐ moved

date of move \_\_\_\_\_

Resource Count: 2

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Andrew Buskirk Property is a 2½-story, 4-bay cross-gable house on the south side of Fairacres Road in the Spencerville vicinity, Montgomery County. Constructed circa 1865, the building is T-shaped in plan with a wide front porch and a hipped roof wrap-around rear porch. The house has a 1-story three-sided canted bay on the projecting front-gable and the attic level has two gable dormers. All three gable ends and the gable dormers have return cornices. According to historic research, it appears that the side-gable section dates to circa 1865 and is described in an 1882 insurance policy as a 2-story, 4 room residence. Due to the more steeply-pitched gable, bay window and fenestration, the front-gable section appears to date to circa 1885. The refined elements of the both sections demonstrate an influence from traditional building techniques. At the time of the construction of the later section circa 1885, it appears that the circa 1865 section was renovated, as some architectural detailing is consistent throughout the structure.

The structure has a cross-gable roof covered with asphalt shingles, with three brick corbelled chimneys. The west side-gable end and the rear gable end have exterior chimneys, while an internal chimney is located at the intersection of the front and side gables. The house is of wood frame construction with wood siding, it has a stone foundation and 2/2 double-hung windows. The house has a hipped roof porch on the front elevation. The porch has a wood floor and a metal roof supported by four, chamfered wood posts.

The front, or west facade has an entrance located in the third bay with a glass and panel wood door with a large single-light. The front facade has a 2/2 double-hung window in both the first and second bays of the side gable on the first story. Also on the first story is the fourth bay, a three-sided canted bay located in the front-gable, with 1/1 double-hung windows. The second story has four 2/2 double-hung windows aligned over the first story openings. The attic level has a gable dormer with a 2/2 double-hung window on the side-gable, while the front gable has a single 2/2 double-hung window.

The north elevation has a symmetrical fenestration pattern, with two 2-light awning windows on the basement level and two 2/2 double-hung windows on the first story. The second story has two 2/2 double-hung windows and two smaller 2/2 double-hung windows on the attic level. All the window openings are arranged around the centrally located exterior chimney.

The rear, or east elevation has a 1-story, hipped roof wrap-around porch at the north corner of the rear front-gable. The fenestration pattern is irregular with two doors and two windows on the first story. One entrance and a small single-light fixed window are located within the screened-in, wrap-around porch, while the other two openings are located on the first floor of the side-gable. The second story has two windows. The first is a 2/2 double-hung window located in the gable end, while the second is a 9-light fixed window on the side-gable. Also on the second floors. The gable end has a centrally located exterior chimney and two 4-light casement windows on the attic level.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: Andrew Buskirk Property

SURVEY NO.: M:28-41 (PACS D3.24)

ADDRESS: 14507 Fairacres Road, Spencerville, Montgomery County, Maryland

## 7. Description (Continued)

The south elevation has three windows and a door on the first story. The windows are 2/2 double-hung and the door is paneled with a large single-light. The entrance and one window are located within the porch which wraps-around from the rear elevation. One of the windows on the first floor is located in an enclosed portion of the wrap-around porch. The second story has two 2/2 double-hung windows and the attic level has a gable dormer with a 2/2 double-hung window. Alterations to the property include the enclosure of a portion of the rear porch.

There is one outbuilding associated with this property. The outbuilding is a small 1-story metal shed, with a metal gable roof. Constructed circa 1980, the structure is located north of the house.

The property is located on the south side of Fairacres Road and east of Briggs Chaney Road. There are large trees adjacent to the house and large front, side and rear yards. The house is located adjacent to residential properties which date to the second half of the twentieth century.



## 8. Significance

Survey No. M:28-41 (PACS D3.24)

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archaeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communication	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

<b>Specific dates</b>	circa 1865, enlarged circa 1885	<b>Builder/Architect</b>	Unknown
-----------------------	---------------------------------	--------------------------	---------

check:      Applicable Criteria:    \_\_\_A   \_\_\_B   \_\_\_C   \_\_\_D  
                 and/or  
                 Applicable Exceptions: \_\_\_A   \_\_\_B   \_\_\_C   \_\_\_D   \_\_\_E   \_\_\_F   \_\_\_G  
                 Level of Significance: \_\_\_national            \_\_\_state        \_\_\_local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Andrew Buskirk began accumulating land in the Spencerville area in 1855. In 1865, Buskirk purchased 146 acres of land from James Spencer of Bucks County, Pennsylvania. According to Montgomery County tax records, the house was constructed circa 1865. Manlow Buskirk, an heir of Andrew Buskirk, sold 64.3 hectares (159 acres) and the house to Henry Stabler in 1882. A Mutual Insurance Policy of Henry Stabler in March 1882 describes a house and barn complex, 1.6 kilometers (1 mile) south of Spencerville. The house had 2-stories, 4 rooms and a shingle roof. The house and 64.3 hectares (159 acres) was sold to Asa Stabler in May of 1882 for \$3000.00. It is likely that the house was enlarged during Asa Stabler's ownership, due to the roof form and fenestration pattern of the front-gable. The house remained in the Stabler family until 1946. The Gudelsky family purchased the land in 1946 and subdivided the land. The house was sold once before purchased by the current owners, the Davis family, in 1960.

The town of Spencerville is located on land originally patented in 1703 as "Bear Bacon" and in 1715 as "Snowden's Manor Enlarged" in what was then Prince George's County. This patent was a resurvey of earlier Snowden patents, and it increased Snowden family holdings to 3749 hectares (9265 acres) of land in what is now four Maryland counties. In 1850, William Spencer of Pennsylvania settled in the area when he led his relatives and others from Southhampton Township, Pennsylvania into Montgomery County around 1848. A small community was formed by Spencer on the Laurel Road (present Spencerville Road) called Drayton which connected the Quaker settlements of Sandy Spring and Ashton with the railroad line at Laurel. The settlement was renamed Spencerville in 1859 in honor of William Spencer.

In the late nineteenth century, Spencerville reached its peak of importance as an economic and social center. The town contained over 100 residents, as well as two stores, a post office, a blacksmith shop, a physician's office and a grange.

The town began to decline in the first few decades of the twentieth century as the local economy shifted from agricultural to a reliance on the industries and job opportunities created by the federal government. The town was small and rural until after the Second World War, when rapid economic growth in southern Montgomery County and improved roads made Spencerville accessible to new residents. Empty lots in the town were filled with modern residences, while the area still retains a rural character. Many of the old working farms remain, however, the area continues to grow into one of the major suburban centers outside of Washington, D.C.

# CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: Andrew Buskirk Property

SURVEY NO.: M:28-41 (PACS D3.24)

ADDRESS: 14507 Fairacres Road, Spencerville, Montgomery County, Maryland

## 8. Significance (Continued)

The house on the Andrew Buskirk Property was a 3-bay I-house which was expanded with a front-gable wing in the late nineteenth century. The standard I-house is one room deep and two stories tall with three to five openings on each story. From the front, an I-house is often indistinguishable from a Georgian house. The gable view, however, reveals the greater depth of the Georgian house. Chimneys are located on the interior of the gable ends, however, external chimneys are characteristic in the Chesapeake region. Usually, an I-house has a one-story porch running the length or nearly the length of the long side. On the interior, a central hall separates the two rooms on the first floor; the second floor contains either two or four sleeping chambers. Due to the narrowness of the main core, many I-houses have kitchen wings to the rear. Initially, stone masonry construction was used but by the mid-nineteenth century, as pre-cut lumber became increasingly available, frame construction became the norm. During the Victorian period, pre-cut detailing or a two-tiered porch was commonly grafted onto the traditional I-house. The I-house plan was popular into the early twentieth century, with examples appearing in catalogs of mass-produced suburban houses (Gowans 1992, 55-6).

### NATIONAL REGISTER EVALUATION:

The Andrew Buskirk Property is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The property is not eligible under Criterion A, as research conducted indicates no association with any historic events or trends significant in the development of national, state or local history. Historic research indicates that the property has no association with persons who have made specific contributions to history, and therefore, it does not meet Criterion B. It is not eligible under Criterion C as the structure is an undistinguished example of a common dwelling form of the period, which is not characterized by any distinctive features. Finally the property has no known potential to yield important information, and therefore, does not meet Criterion D.

### MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

Eligibility recommended \_\_\_\_\_ Eligibility Not Recommended X

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Reviewer, OPS: Andrew Date: 01/02/02

Reviewer, NR Program: History Date: 3/4/02

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. M:28-41 (PACS D3.24)

See Continuation Sheet

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property .48 hectares (1.2 acres)

Quadrangle name Beltsville

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Caroline Hall/Tim Tamburrino

organization P.A.C. Spero & Company

date December 1996

street & number 40 W. Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 412

telephone (410) 296-1635

city or town Baltimore

state Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposed only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
DHCP/DHCD  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023  
(410) 514-7600

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: Andrew Buskirk Property

SURVEY NO.: M:28-41 (PACS D3.24)

ADDRESS: 14507 Fairacres Road, Spencerville, Montgomery County, Maryland

## 9. Major Bibliographical References (Continued)

Boyd, T.H.S. The History of Montgomery County, Maryland, From its Earliest Settlement in 1650 to 1879. Baltimore: Regional Publishing Company, 1968.

Farquhar, Roger Brooke. Old Homes and History of Montgomery County, Maryland. Washington: Judd and Detweiler, Inc., 1962.

Gowans, Alan. Styles and Types of North American Architecture. New York: Harper Collins, 1992.

Hiebert, Ray Eldon, and Richard K. MacMaster. A Grateful Remembrance: the Story of Montgomery County, Maryland. Rockville, Maryland: Montgomery County Government and the Montgomery County Historical Society, 1976.

Hopkins, G.M. Atlas of 15 Miles Around Washington including County of Montgomery, Maryland. Philadelphia: G.M. Hopkins, 1879; reprint, Rockville, Maryland: Montgomery County Historical Society, 1975.

Land Records of Montgomery County, Maryland.

Martenet, Simon J. Martenet and Bond's Map of Montgomery County, Maryland.

Baltimore, Maryland: Simon J. Martenet, 1865; reprint, Rockville, Maryland: Montgomery County Historical Society.

Mutual Fire Insurance Record

# CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

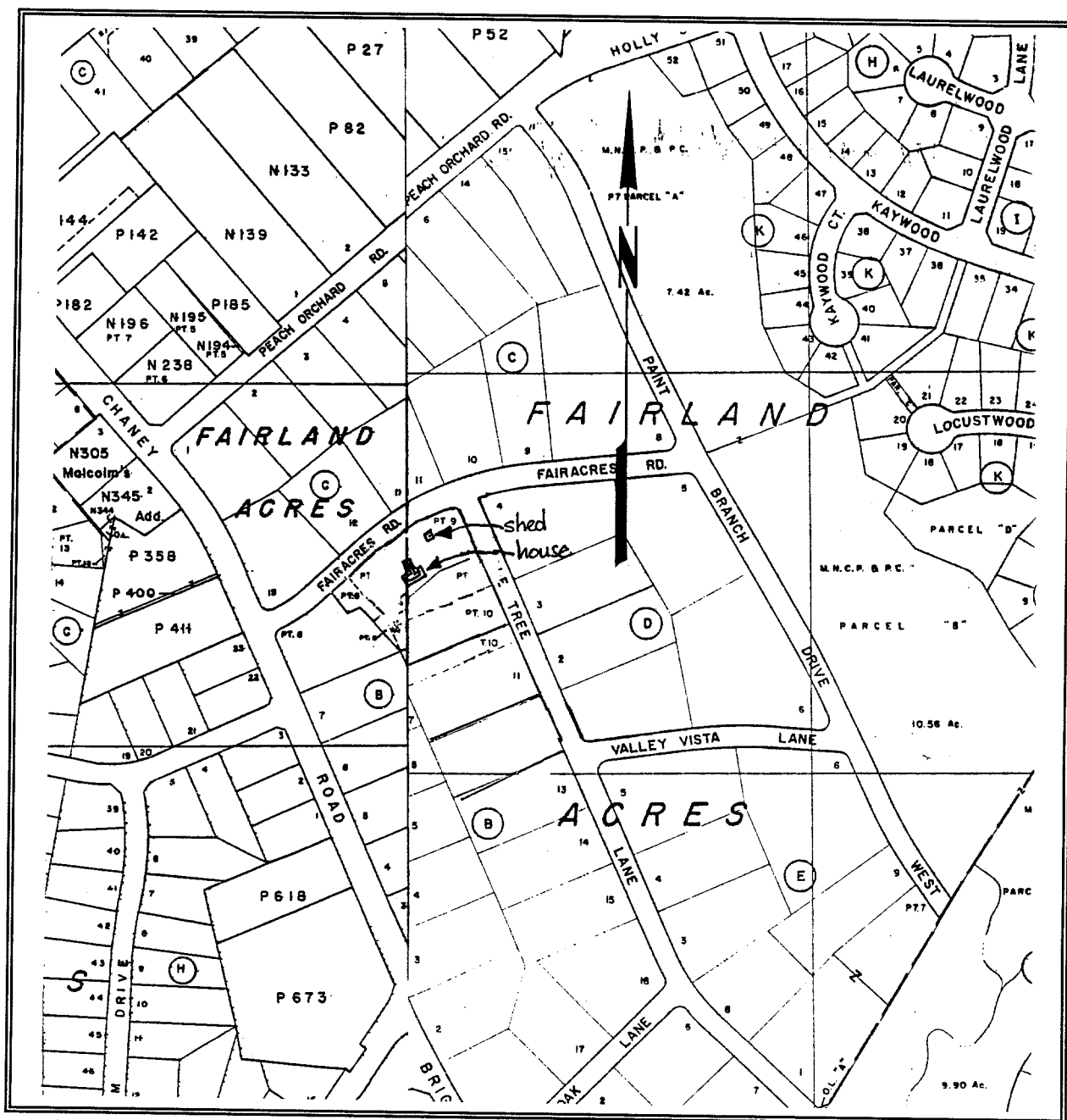
RESOURCE NAME: Andrew Buskirk Property

SURVEY NO.: M:28-41 (PACS D3.24)

ADDRESS: 14507 Fairacres Road, Spencerville, Montgomery County, Maryland

## 10. Geographical Data

Resource Sketch Map:



CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: Andrew Buskirk Property

SURVEY NO.: M:28-41 (PACS D3.24)

ADDRESS: 14507 Fairacres Road, Spencerville, Montgomery County, Maryland

Maryland Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan Data Sheet

Historic Context:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization:

Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period Theme (s):

Agricultural-Industrial Transition A.D. 1815-1870

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s):

Architecture

RESOURCE TYPE:

Category (see Section 3 of survey form):

Building

Historic Environment (urban, suburban, village, or rural):

Suburban

Historic Function(s) and Use(s):

Private Residence

Known Design Source (write none if unknown):

None

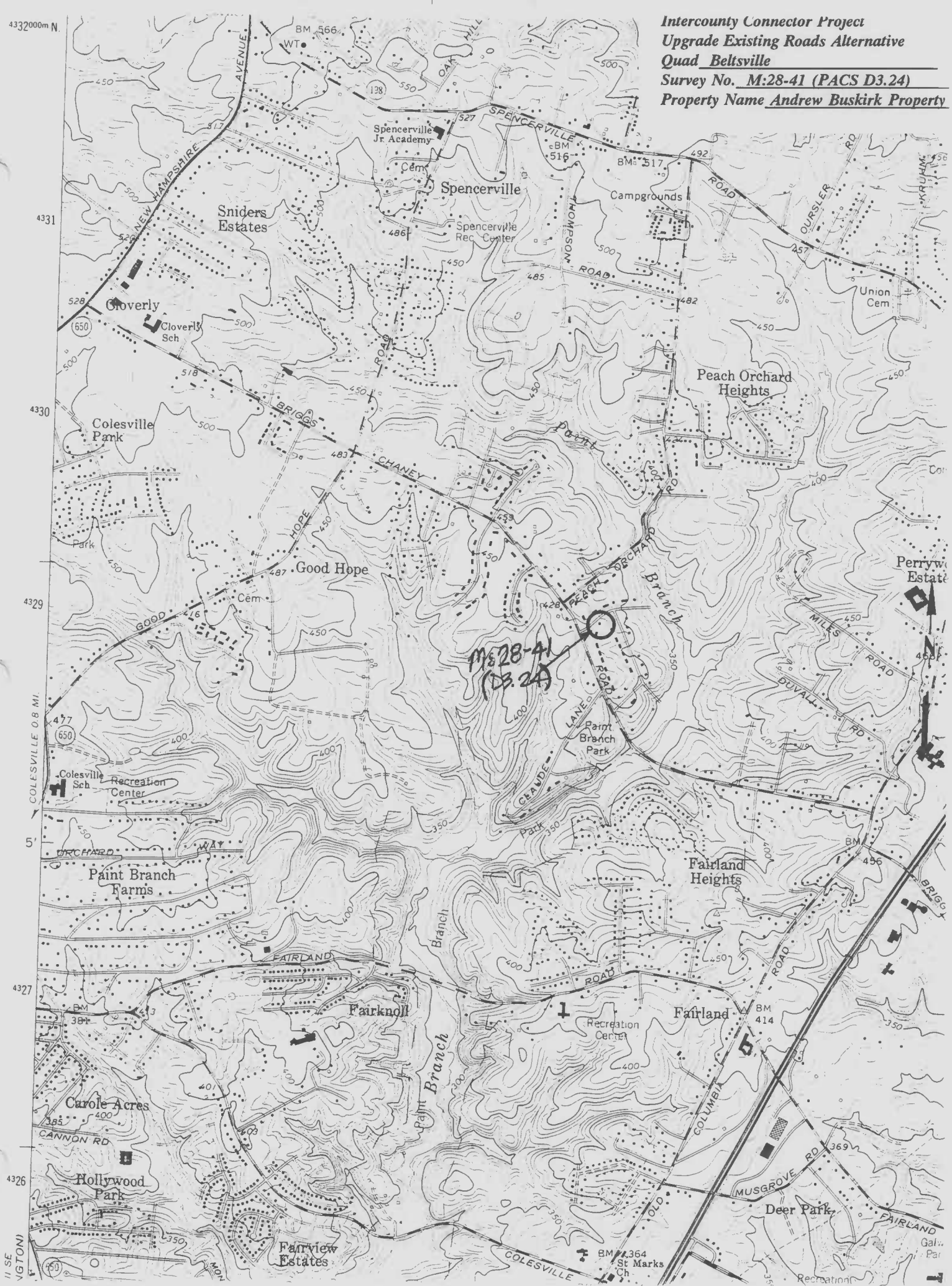
Preparer:

F.A.C. Spero & Company

December 1996

4332000m N

Intercounty Connector Project  
Upgrade Existing Roads Alternative  
Quad Beltsville  
Survey No. M:28-41 (PACS D3.24)  
Property Name Andrew Buskirk Property







- 1 M:28-41
- 2 Andrew Buskirk Property
- 3 Montgomery County
- 4 Tim Tamburino
- 5 June 1996
- 6 PAC Speward Co. 40 W. Chesapeake Ave Suite  
412 Towson, MD 21204
- 7 14507 Farnaces Rd, east corner
- 8 1 of 4.



- 1 P. 28-41
- 2 Andrew Buskirk Property
- 3 Montgomery County
- 4 Tim Tamburino
- 5 June 1996
- 6 PAC Spew + Co. 10 W. Chesapeake Ave. Suite 412  
Towson MD 21204
- 7 14507 Fairview Rd., South corner
- 8 2 of 4



- 1 M: 28-41
- 2 Andrew Buskirk Property
- 3 Montgomery County
- 4 Tim Tamburino
- 5 June 1996
- 6 PAC Spew and Co. 40 W Chesapeake Ave. Suite  
412 Tawson MD 21204
- 7 14501 Fairacres Road, west corner
- 8 3 of 4



- 1 1128-41
- 2 Andrew Buskirk Property
- 3 Montgomery County
- 4 Tim Tamburino
- 5 June 1996
- 6 PAC Speco and Co., 40 W. Chesapeake Ave.  
Suite 412, Tawson MD 21204
- 7 14507 Jamaries Road, metal outbuilding
- 8 4 of 4